

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of September 11, 2006**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Donald Wallace (absent), Selectmen Melvin Adams (Vice-Chair), Michael Demasi, Kenneth Johnson, and Roger LeClair. Also present were Town Manager Nanci Allard, Clerk Samantha Baraw, and Warren Hagy.

Vice-Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **August 28, 2006 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Demasi, to approve the minutes. Correction: Item VI, d, item was seconded by Selectman Johnson. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #06-07.** Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to approve Warrant #06-07 in the amount of \$98,524.35. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

V. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. **Act 207, Section 25 (Veterans' Property Tax Exemption).** This agenda item is a request from Northfield resident Brenda Cruickshank, who is a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Service Officer and a State Legislative Officer for VFW. Previously, the Veterans Property Tax Exemption, by State Statute, was limited to \$20,000 of the appraisal value. It now has been raised to \$40,000. 230 towns, including Northfield, currently grant \$10,000 while 90 towns grant \$20,000. Ms. Cruickshank is asking that Northfield raise its limit from \$10,000 to \$20,000. There are only eighteen (18) eligible persons in Northfield; this is only for veterans that are 50% or higher disabled. The way it works is that if your home is worth \$100,000 and you are granted this exemption, your house would be valued at \$80,000 for tax purposes. Ms. Cruickshank wants the Board to put this item on next year's Town Meeting Warning. The Board will make this part of its upcoming budget sessions.
- b. **Status Reports: Various Projects.** Ms. Allard had nothing to add.

VI. **SELECTBOARD**

- a. **Belniak Driveway Permit.** Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to approve the permit. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**
- b. **DRAFT Personnel Policy:** The Board's Management Subcommittee met with their Trustees counterparts last Thursday (09/07/06). They made it through the first fifteen (15) pages and have another sixteen (16) to go. They will meet again next week.
- c. **Year-End Financial Statements:** There is a summary sheet on the top of the packet. Kudos to the Department Heads for tightening their belts so that the Town ended the previous fiscal year with a surplus.
- d. **Status Reports: Various Projects:**
1. **Crop Walk Day Proclamation.** This will be discussed at the next meeting.
 2. **Town Tax Rate.** Manager Allard is checking on whether the Town can set a tax rate before the School Budget is resolved. The next vote will be on Tuesday, September 19, 2006.

3. **Rezoning.** Selectman Johnson would like the Board to think about asking the Planning Commission to look at our properties to see about possible rezoning.
4. **Proposed Town Charter.** Information on the charter was in the *Northfield News*. There are hearings scheduled for Monday, September 25, 2006 and Tuesday, October 3, 2006.

VII. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Non-agenda items: None.

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to adjourn.
Motion passed 4-0-0.

The Board adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled meeting.